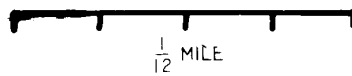


Schoolhouse Pond

CHATHAM

23 Acres

Not To Be Used For Navigational Purposes



SCHOOLHOUSE POND (Chatham)

General Information:

This 23-acre natural kettlehole pond has an average depth of 20 feet and a maximum depth of 47 feet. Transparency is good, the bottom is composed primarily of sand, and aquatic vegetation is sparse and mostly submergent. The shoreline is moderately developed with permanent residences and a beach.

The pond is located just south of Queen Anne Road, west of Goose Pond, and northwest of the Chatham Municipal Airport. From the Sagamore Bridge, take Route 6 east to exit 11; take Route 137 south. Take a left onto Queen Anne Road, then a right onto Sam Ryder Road. The access is on the left and over a town beach. It is suitable for launching car top boats and canoes.

Electric motors only — no internal combustion engines are allowed.

This pond was reclaimed in 1963, at which time it was found to be dominated by yellow perch and brown bullhead. It was treated with 10 tons of agricultural limestone in 1971 to counteract increasingly acid conditions. It and the adjoining Ryders Pond were reclaimed for trout management in 1973 to control an expanding goldfish population. The pond was stocked with smallmouth bass adults in 1980 and 1987. It was again treated with limestone (6.6 tons) in 1991.

Fish Populations:

A fisheries survey conducted in 1952 found banded killifish, yellow perch, brown bullhead and chain pickerel. A fisheries survey by a consultant studying the liming found yellow perch, pumpkinseed sunfish, smallmouth bass, redbreast (chain?) pickerel, brown trout, American eel and abundant banded killifish. In addition to stocked trout, Schoolhouse Pond contains a variety of warm water species.

Fishing:

Schoolhouse Pond is managed as a catchable trout pond and is annually stocked in the spring with brook, brown and rainbow trout. These will readily take small spoons (gold color is recommended), spinners, streamers, worms and doughbaits. While little is known about the quality of the smallmouth bass fishery, the yellow perch should be abundant and of good average size. Best bet to get these in quantity is to slow troll or drift a spinner with a trailing garden worm. When a school is located, it is always a good idea to anchor for a little while to work a worm-sweetened jig.

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